The Catholic baseball team has recently begun their pre-season training for the upcoming spring season. The team has lost a number of seniors from the last year’s team, but approaching season remains promising.

Coached by Mr. Belk, the cougars finished last season with a record of 21-4 and were co-conference champions with West Mecklenburg.

Besides wanting to win the conference again, the team has set other goals for themselves.

“Our first goal is always to come together as a team and put together some wins. We always want to win the conference and should have a good chance to do that again this year,” said senior Eddie Hull. Hull has signed to play at Wingate next year and will be looked at as one of the main leaders for the team this seaon.

The team also looks towards the state championship; last season they lost to Marvin Ridge in the third round of playoffs.

The team’s biggest challenge this 2012 season is overcoming the loss of eleven former seniors. Eddie Hull will be the only returning starter on the team, but he is not worried.

“Without all those guys, we will definitely have some roles to fill. Our junior class is strong though and those guys should step up and help out a lot,” said Hull.

Coach Belk has been Catholic’s baseball coach for thirty two years and will help the team progress through the season. While not the most hands-on coach, he lets the players help one another to build team comradery.

“Belk has been a great coach,” said Hull, “he lets us do our thing which makes it fun while still having productive seasons.”

Although there is only one returning starter, the junior class has some rising players that will do a great job to fill in the empty spaces in the field. Some juniors that will make a huge impression on the team this season are Chase Arnold, Christian Schwartz, and Jeff Ciesielski with pitchers Jordon Accetta and Jacob Bonen-Clark.

Jeff Ciesielki is a new student to Charlotte Catholic from Atlanta, but is certain to make a positive addition to the team.

The cougars will play their first season game on February 28.